

The following remarks are in response to the Examiner's assertion on page 2 of the Advisory Action mailed March 19, 2001. Hasebe relates to preventing copying of information stored on a medium. Therefore, according to Hasebe only users who are formally given permission can have the right of using content/information on a medium. Col. 5, lines 13-16 of Hasebe clarify that medium 1, including content thereof, can be transferred from one user to another user for use on many computers. However, Hasebe prevents copying of the content stored on the medium 1 to another medium for use because of the permission information 13, which includes medium number (identification) 12.

In contrast to Hasebe, the present invention provides secure/legal copying of content/information stored on a medium. In particular, the present invention manages permission information, which also includes a medium number (identification), by, for example, devolving (transferring) the permission information from one user to another user or revising the permission information responsive to use (consumption) of content/information being protected by the permission information. The present invention can provide, for example, the following: (1) giving the right of using content/information one hundred times, and prohibiting use of the content beyond one hundred times;(2) permitting free use of the content/information for one hundred times by any user; and (3) giving the right of using the content/information for fifty times out of the one hundred in one computer and the right of using the content for the other fifty times in another computer.


Consideration of the remarks herein is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the remarks presented above, Applicants submit that this Application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is hereby respectfully requested.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
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